

SIMILAR WORDS IN SOUND

Accept Except	I should like to accept your first offer. He took everything except the rugs.
Advice Advise	Free advice (noun) is usually not worth much. Ms. Hull said she would advise (verb) me this term. (Similarly, device (noun) and devise (verb), prophecy (noun) and prophesy (verb)).
Affect Effect	His forced jokes affect (verb) me unfavorably. His humor has a bad effect (noun). Let us try to effect (verb) a lasting peace.
All ready Already	They were all ready to go home. They had already left when we telephoned the house.
All together Altogether	Now that we are all together, let us talk it over. They were not altogether pleased with the results.
Altar Alter	In this temple was an altar to the Unknown God. One should not try to alter or escape history.
Brake Break	A defective brake caused the accident. Try not to break any dishes.
Canvas Canvass	We used a piece of canvas to shelter us from the wind. The candidate wanted to canvass every person in her precinct.
Capital Capitol	A capital letter; capital gains; capital punishment; state capital. Workers are painting the dome of the Capitol.
Cite Site Sight	He cited three good examples. The site of the new school has not been decided on. They were awed by the sight of so much splendor.
Coarse Course	The coarse sand blew in my face. We discussed the course to take. Of course he may come with us.
Complement Compliment	Your intelligence is a complement to your beauty. It is easier to pay a compliment than a bill.
Conscious Conscience	The victim was in a daze, not conscious of anything around her. I hope his conscience bothered him after he lied to me.

Consul Council Counsel	Be sure to look up the American consul in Rome. He was appointed to the executive council. I sought counsel from my friends. They counseled moderation. He employed counsel to defend him.
Decent Descent Dissent	The workers demanded a decent wage scale. The descent from the mountain was uneventful. The voices of dissent were louder than those of approval.
Desert Dessert	Out in the lonely desert (noun – deś ert), he tried to desert (verb – de sert') from his regiment. We had apple pie for dessert.
Dining Dinning	We eat dinner in our dining room. Dining at home is pleasant. Stop dinning that song into my ears!
Formerly Formally	He was formerly a student at Beloit College. You must address the presiding judge formally and respectfully.
Forth Fourth	Several witnesses came forth to testify. We planned a picnic for the Fourth of July.
Incidence Incidents	Better sanitation lowered the incidence of communicable diseases. Smugglers were involved in several incidents along the border.
Instance Instants	For instance, she was always late to class. As the car turned, those brief instants seemed like hours.
Its It's	Your plan has much in its favor. (Possessive of it) It is too late now for excuses. (Contraction of it is, it has.)
Later Latter	It is later than you think. Of the two novels, I prefer the latter.
Lead Led	Can you lead (verb) us out of this jungle? Lead (noun) is heavy, soft, malleable metallic element. A local guide led us to the salmon fishing hole.
Loose Lose	He has a loose tongue. The dog is loose again. Don't lose your temper.
No Know	I have no change. I know a man with a dog.
Passed Past	She smiled as she passed me. She passed the test. It is futile to try to relive the past.

Peace	Everyone prefers peace to war.
Piece	They ate every piece of cake.
Personal	Write him a personal letter.
Personnel	The morale of our company's personnel is high.
Plain	She lives in a very plain house.
Plane	The plane circled the airport.
Pore	For hours they pored over the mysterious note.
Pour	Mrs. Cook poured hot water into the teapot.
Precedence	Tax reform takes precedence over all other legislative matters.
Precedents	The judge quoted three precedents to justify his ruling.
Presence	We are honored by your presence.
Presents	The child received dozens of Christmas presents.
Principal	The principal of a school; the principal (chief) industry; the principal and the interest.
Principle	He is a man of high principles.
Quiet	You must keep quiet.
Quite	The weather was quite good all week.
Rain	A soaking rain would help our crops greatly.
Reign	Samuel Pepys was briefly imprisoned during the reign of William III.
Rein	Keep a tight rein when you ride this spirited horse.
Shone	The cat's eye shone in the dark.
Shown	He hasn't shown us his best work.
Stationary	The benches were stationary and could not be moved.
Stationery	She wrote a letter on hotel stationery.
Statue	It was a statue of a pioneer.
Stature	Athos was a man of gigantic stature.
Statute	The law may be found in the 1917 book of statutes.
Than	She sings better than I.
Then	He screamed; then he fainted.
Their	It wasn't their fault. (Possessive pronoun)
There	You won't find any gold there. (Adverb of place)
They're	They're sure to be disappointed. (Contraction of they are)

Thorough	We must first give the old cabin a thorough (adjective) cleaning.
Through	The thief had entered through (preposition) a hole in the roof.
To	Be sure to speak to her. (Preposition)
Too	He is far too old for you. (Adverb)
Two	The membership fee is only two dollars. (Adjective)
Waist	She wore a wide belt around her waist.
Waste	Pollution can be caused by industrial waste.
Whose	Whose book is this? (Possessive pronoun)
Who's	I wonder who's with her now. (Contraction of who is)
Your	I like your new car. (Possessive pronoun)
You're	You're not nervous, are you? (Contraction of you are)